

**Grass Lawn Neighborhood Plan  
Alternatives and Preliminary Recommendations**

**Concessions in Grass Lawn Park**

<b>Issue:</b>	How could concessions be integrated into Grass Lawn Park?
<b>Description/ Background:</b>	<p>The Grass Lawn Citizen Advisory Committee is interested in enhancing Grass Lawn Park by encouraging seasonal food vendors. Currently, Hartman Park is the only Redmond park offering concessions. Redmond Little League and Babe Ruth Little League volunteers run the concession stands, which operate as fundraisers for the two groups. For-profit organizations have explored the possibility of opening a concession stand in Grass Lawn Park in the past. However, it was determined the stand would not be able to turn a profit, particularly given the seasonal nature of such a business. There are also varying opinions on the Parks Board regarding allowance of for-profit groups to operate on City parkland.</p>
<b>Park Restrictions:</b>	<p>Currently, the Redmond Parks Department does not permit park concessions, other than the little league venues in Hartman Community Park. However, it is interested in exploring the possibility of allowing concessions in Grass Lawn Park. In doing so, the Parks Department will first evaluate the appropriateness of the park for this use and what type of concessions may fit the park site. Subsequently, a permit and permission from the Parks Department Director and perhaps City Council would be required.</p> <p>The Parks Department and Parks Board have not yet decided if concession services will be permitted in Grass Lawn Park. However, the pattern of use and current facilities make it a good candidate. Grass Lawn offers a variety of recreational opportunities and is heavily used by a wide range of community members. Hence, concession services are likely to be used at a relatively consistent rate, making sense both in terms of financial viability and park vitality.</p>
<b>Redmond Municipal Code:</b>	<p>Concessions are generally not permitted in residential zones and Grass Lawn Park is located in a residential zone. However, there is a provision allowing concessions on parkland, with the approval of the Parks Director. <b>Code 9.32.150</b> of the municipal code, under Title 9: Public Peace, Morals and Safety states:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><b>“Selling refreshments or merchandise.</b> It is unlawful to sell refreshments or merchandise in any park without first entering into a concession contract according to the rules and regulations of the Parks and Recreation Department of the City. (Ord. 1795 section 1, 1994: Ord. 1244 section 2 (part), 1985: Ord. 1074 section 1 (part), 1982).”</p>

<b>Location Possibilities:</b>	Grass Lawn Park has limited space available for a concession stand. It is also in the midst of implementing a 4-phase Park Improvement Plan, which will alter the land use composition of the park. For now, the most viable location for a concession venue is likely near the restrooms, adjacent to the soccer fields. This is a relatively busy location, already equipped with a water and electricity source. Although the City would charge the vendor for water and electricity usage, having a readily available source would save significant upfront costs.
<b>Alternatives:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Encourage a for-profit semi-permanent, portable/mobile venue</u> such as an ice cream/snack/beverage stand or kiosk. This alternative requires approval from the Parks Department, Park Board and possibly the City Council.</li> <li>2. <u>Encourage a non-profit volunteer run concession stand. A semi-permanent, portable/mobile venue</u> such as an ice cream/snack/beverage stand or kiosk. This alternative requires approval from the Parks Department, Park Board and possibly the City Council.</li> <li>3. <u>Do not pursue the encouragement or use of any type of concessions in Grass Lawn Park.</u></li> </ol>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	Both Alternatives 1 and 2 should be explored. The Planning Department and Citizen Advisory Committee should work closely with Parks Department management and the Parks Board. Staff and 1-2 CAC representatives are scheduled to attend the Parks Board November 6 <sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss this issue if Alternatives 1 or 2 are chosen.